

Serial No.: 10/532,644,
Preliminary Amendment

Docket No.: 14.0225-PCT-US

Remarks

Claims 1-44 were pending.

Claims 18-37 are cancelled. Claims 1, 16, 17 and 38 are amended. Claim 45 is added. Claims 1 and 38 are amended to clarify the "independent pathway" in the current invention. Claims 16, 17 and 45 are amended/add to further point out features of the current invention. No new material is introduced.

After this amendment, Claims 1-17, 38-45 are pending.


It is noted that the pending claims 1-17 and 38-45 are substantively identical to the claims in its GB counterpart, which is now a UK patent, GB 2 395 630 B, issued on 22 August 2007, from an application number 0227293.8, filed on 22 November, 2002.

Claims in US case,	1, 2-15, 16, 17, 38, 39-44, 45	correspond to
claims in GB patent:	1, 3-17, 2, 3, 18, 20-25, 19.	

A request for participation in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program between the UKIPO and the USPTO is submitted together with this preliminary amendment.

Applicant believes that the current application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that it be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,


Liangang (Mark) Ye
Registration Number 48,276
WesternGeco, L.L.C.
10001 Richmond Avenue
Houston, Texas 77042
Telephone: (713) 689-5799
Facsimile: (713) 689-1977